HABS No.

CA-2381

Michael Zoppi House River Street Historic District 324 W. St. John Street San Jose Santa Clara County California

HARS CAL 43-SANJOS,

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey National Park Service Western Region Department of the Interior San Francisco, California 94107

HABS CAL 43-SANTOS, 22-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Michael Zoppi House

HABS No. CA-2381

Location:

324 West St. John Street, River Street Historic District

San Jose, California

UTM Coordinates: 10-597710-4132410

Significance:

The Michael Zoppi House, due to its architectural integrity and contribution to the urban fabric, forms an integral part of the River Street Historic District, a rare intact late nineteenth century and early twentieth century working class neighborhood

in San Jose.

Description:

The Michael Zoppi House, a one-story wood framed structure, contains a hipped roof and full porch that extends across the length of the front elevation. A shed roof tops the rear addition. The house is clad in clapboard siding (as is the low porch wall) and roofed in composition shingle. Four square columns support the porch roof. The house is a long and narrow structure situated on a long and narrow parcel. Its front elevation contains a center door flanked by a double hung one over one window on each side.

The central front door leads directly into a living room that stretches the full length of the front facade. A narrow hall along the west wall leads into the kitchen and contains a door to a bedroom. The bathroom sits along the east wall and contains a door to both the bedroom and the kitchen. The gable roofed addition in the rear houses two additional rooms and an interior stair to the backyard. The house is a vernacular form ultimately derived from the Greek Revival style popular in the mid-nineteenth century.

History:

The house was constructed around I885 and was occupied for many years by Michael Zoppi, an Italian-born waiter. Zoppi lived at 326 Carlysle and purchased this house in 1915. His widow continued to live in the house through 1955 and his son Arthur, a salesman, also occupied the house. The house was one of several late nineteenth century cottages that illustrate the persistence of Greek Revival forms in the architecture of urban California.

Sources:

California Historic Resources Inventory Form, prepared by

Stephen D. Mikesell, 1988.

San Jose City Directories. San Jose 1924 Block Map.

Historian:

Hardlines: Design & Delineation Columbus, Ohio & Bethesda, Maryland

July - October, 1993

